

Before then, however, grading may be debated further. While endorsing the change, Summers noted that he hoped for more work to address concerns about “compression” (the usefulness of grades to distinguish among students in a class) and equity (Pedersen’s data uncovered marked differences in grading among the academic divisions today).

Such discussion might well be warranted. In its May 24 issue, published on the last day of final exams, the *Crimson’s* “Roving Reporter” asked, “How will Harvard’s changes to grading and honors policies affect your study habits?” Among

the week when he was named Fellow, he keynoted a campus symposium on globalization.

In a statement, Summers said of his former colleague’s role on the Corporation, “Obviously, Bob Rubin is someone for whom I have the deepest respect. I know from experience that his wisdom and judgment, as well as his understanding of how complex organizations work, will serve the University extremely well.” Rubin hailed Harvard as “a great university—a truly global resource—that plays an enormous role in furthering inquiry, understanding, and debate across the entire spectrum of intellectual pursuits.” He expressed pleasure at “the opportunity to contribute to that important mission, and to work with Larry Summers and his colleagues on the Corporation and in the Harvard community in thinking about Harvard’s future opportunities, directions, and challenges.”

With a successor to Winokur still to be chosen, the lineup of those Corporation colleagues remains incomplete, and further change is possible. Treasurer D. Ronald Daniel, M.B.A. ’54, a Corporation member since 1989, and Hanna H. Gray, Ph.D. ’57, LL.D. ’95, a Fellow since 1997, may consider retiring in the not-distant future. But given the relatively recent transitions in Harvard’s presidency and on the collegial Corporation itself, they may remain to provide continuity atop the University’s governing structure.

the respondents, Daniel B. Tomlinson ’03 replied, “Well, if I had study habits...” and Timothy M. Coleman ’02 offered, “My current 3.0 on a 15-point scale GPA could be perceived as a B.”

Adjudicating Sexual-Assault Cases

STYMIED IN ITS ATTEMPTS to resolve certain student peer complaints—most seriously those alleging sexual assault—the College’s Administrative Board sought, and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) on May 7 granted, a new procedure for handling such disputes. Rather than ending the matter, the legislation set off a sharp discussion among faculty members and students (organized as the Coalition Against Sexual Violence) about what Harvard does, and ought to do, to prevent such abuses and respond to them when they occur. As a result, a new University-wide committee was commissioned May 21 to review the problem and recommend better policies.

Dean of Harvard College Harry R. Lewis signaled the procedural change in January, in his annual report on undergraduate life during the prior academic year. The Administrative Board, which he chairs, had been “asked to investigate a sharply increased number of complaints of sexual assault.” (There were seven in 2000-2001, compared to 13 during the prior decade.) Several cases involved neither police nor courts, leaving the board to gather “detailed testimony about sexual acts and their context.” That usually meant relying on “he-said-she-said” accounts where the principals “more often than not had been drinking and admit to having only vague or partial recollections of what happened.” Delays in presenting the allegations further attenuated the evidentiary trail. Based on its experience during 2000-2001, Lewis concluded, “it is predictable in advance that the Board will likely be unable” to resolve cases under these circumstances, resulting in fruitless investigations that are “needlessly difficult for the students involved.” (Of the seven cases presented, the board could reach a definitive conclusion in only one.)

Searching for a way to sort out unprov-

able cases from those it could resolve, the board sought advice from an ad hoc faculty committee appointed by FAS dean Jeremy R. Knowles. Its members—Peter T. Ellison, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; Kathleen M. Coleman, professor of Latin; and William A. Graham Jr., Albertson professor of Middle Eastern studies and master of Currier House—also reported in January. Drawing on their own experiences as past Administrative Board members and their examination of recent cases, the committee distinguished adversarial legal proceedings for the prosecution of rape and sexual assault from the College’s internal disciplinary processes. It also noted a third possibility—professional mediation—which might be used to achieve “an acknowledgment of responsibility and a real change in behavior in a serious dispute” for at least some peer cases.

In dealing with peer disputes—where the board essentially weighs conflicting statements presented by two undergraduates—the committee recommended that procedure be changed to a presumption that it “ordinarily will not consider a case unless the allegations presented by the complaining student are supported by sufficient independent corroboration which, if true, would likely permit the Board to decide the case.” To that end, before formally initiating a charge, the Board would use a screening process to gather evidence, such as e-mails or photographs, and lists of witnesses. Based on these submissions from both sides, the dean and the Board would then determine whether to pursue the case. The committee made clear that it in no way changed the substance of the faculty’s 1993 policy on rape, sexual assault, and other sexual misconduct.

It was this procedural recommendation that Lewis presented to the faculty May 7, when it was quickly adopted. The *New York Times* reported the new procedure as a kind of “legal triage” for sorting out date-rape cases, bringing College disciplinary procedure more in line with the rules obtaining in courts.

Within days, on campus, it became something else. Some faculty members said they had not been fully informed on the substance of the issue before their vote. Students protested that the College was

University People

From HCF to HBS

Under executive director **Richard B. Boardman**, the Harvard College Fund has become the premier annual giving organization in higher education (see "An Instrument of Good Will," November-December 2000, page 58). Now Boardman, who has worked in development at Harvard since 1978 and became the fund's helmsman in mid 1986, has moved across the Charles. July 1, he began working as chief development officer at Harvard Business School, where he will run an impending half-billion-dollar campaign. Boardman's Cambridge ties remain strong: wife **Lynne Stanton** directs public education at the Harvard University Art Museums, and daughter **Katherine Boardman '04** is a resident of Dunster House. Twelve-year HCF veteran **Virginia J. Wise**, heretofore deputy director, steps up to become managing director.

Graduate Gurus Depart

Professor of the history of science **Everett I. Mendelsohn** and his wife, **Mary B. Anderson**, president of the Collaborative for Development Action, have concluded a five-year term as master and co-master of Dudley House, the center for graduate students and nonresident undergraduates based in Lehman Hall. The couple, who are both active in international social issues, are credited with creating forums and seminars for graduate students, advocating diversity in appointments, and greatly expanding participation in Dudley House programs.

Senior Status

Ten members of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences stepped down from active status at the end of the academic year. Those retiring are: **Sacvan Bercovitch**, Cabot professor of American literature; **Dudley R. Herschbach**, Baird professor of science; **Walter J. Kaiser**, Higginson professor of English literature, professor of comparative literature, and director of Villa I Tatti; **William Klemperer**, Erving professor of chemistry; **Janos Kornai**, Freed professor of economics;

Lewis H. Lockwood, Peabody professor of music; **Allan R. Robinson**, McKay professor of geophysical fluid dynamics; **John K.G. Shearman**, Adams University Professor; **Stanley J. Tambiah**, Rabb professor of anthropology; and **Nikolaas J. van der Merwe**, Clay professor of scientific archaeology.

Deceased

One of the University's most prominent and public scholars, Agassiz professor of zoology **Stephen Jay Gould**, died on May 20. A past president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Gould was one of the most influential evolutionary biologists of the twentieth



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Stephen Jay Gould

century; his magnum opus, *The Structure of Evolutionary Theory*, was published in March. His passion for sharing science with a wider audience was complemented by his writing skills (his honors included the 1981 National Book Award for *The Panda's Thumb*); at Harvard, where he joined the faculty in 1967, he introduced thousands of undergraduates to his field in Science B-16, "History of Life."...Other faculty deaths this spring include Ford professor of social sciences emeritus **David Riesman '31, J.D.**



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David Riesman

'34, LL.D. '90, coauthor of one of the most influential sociological texts of the twentieth century, *The Lonely Crowd* (1950), and most recently a scholar of higher education, who died on May 10; and Bowditch professor of Central American and Mexican archaeology and ethnology emeritus **Gordon R. Willey**, ranked as the preeminent American archaeologist of the last half-century and the father of "settlement pattern studies," who died on April 28.



HARVARD NEWS OFFICE

Gordon R. Willey

callously turning its back on the victims of sexual assault, and making it harder to seek redress. Radcliffe professor of the history of science **Katharine Park** (whose unsettling recollection of misogyny at Harvard during her undergraduate years, 1968-1972, is reprinted in *The Women's Guide to Harvard*, published last winter), put the matter back on the faculty's agenda for its May 21 meeting. Her aim, she explained, was to explore alternatives to criminal prosecution of sexual-misconduct cases, "the quality of education and advising" offered students concerning rape and sexual assault, and preventive measures.

And then the brewing confrontation was defused. Lewis apologized for failing to provide better information before the May 7 vote, emphasizing that the issue had been framed as a change in procedure, not in the faculty's definition of sexual misconduct or its determination to punish abuses. Reflecting community concerns, and his own, Lewis announced formation of a new committee, charged with reviewing and making recommendations to the dean of the College and the University provost on "all institutional support services for victims of sexual violence and all preventive, educational, and outreach programs to reduce the incidence of sexual violence in Harvard College." Its chair is the School of Public Health's **Jennifer Leaning**—professor of international health, a founder of Physicians for Human Rights, and herself a 1967 Radcliffe alumna—who has investigated humanitarian disasters and crises worldwide. Park said she would serve on the committee, and thanked administrators, Lewis, and "most of all the students" for bringing matters to "this hopeful place."

With that, conditions were set for a comprehensive analysis of student sexual misconduct at Harvard—even as a civil-rights complaint against the new procedure was filed in June. Beyond a review of Administrative Board procedures or even the wider recommendations from the ad hoc committee (concerning the counsel students are given when sexual abuse is alleged, and alternate paths to pursuing charges), the new study will aim, ultimately, to influence the fundamental issues of student behavior and responsibility within the University community.